

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

CALL TO ORDER

Time: ____pm

1. FLAG SALUTE

2. OPENING STATEMENT

In accordance with Section 5 of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231, P.L. 1975, this public body, the Hopatcong Board of Education hereby announces that The New Jersey Herald and the Daily Record have been notified by email that this Board of Education Regular Meeting will take place at 7:00 p.m following the Executive Session (in room 21) which starts at 6:00 p.m. on May 19, 2025 at the Hopatcong Board of Education, Board meeting room in the Administration Building.

3. ROLL CALL

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

4. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A motion will be made that the Hopatcong Board of Education will enter Executive Session in room 21 to discuss personnel and attorney/client privilege, which are exempt from public participation pursuant to New Jersey Public Law 1975, Chapter 231, Open Public Meetings Act. Any discussions held by the Board which need not remain confidential will be made public when appropriate. Minutes of the Executive Session will not be disclosed until the need for confidentiality no longer exists. The Board will reconvene in public session at 7:00 p.m. following the executive session.

Motion to enter executive session:

(ACTION) Motion by Choose Item ▾ . seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

5. RECONVENE

Motion to Reconvene

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	-----... ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	-----... ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	-----... ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Approval of the minutes of the following meetings, as reported by the Board Secretary reviewed by the Board President and members of the Board:

- April 7, 2025 - Special Meeting
- April 28, 2025- Executive Session
- April 28, 2025 - Regular Meeting

Motion to approve 6a-6c:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ . Seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	-----... ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	-----... ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	-----... ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

7. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT AND HIB REPORT

- Superintendent's Report – **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck, Superintendent of Schools**
- A second reading and approval of the Superintendent's HIB Report for April 2025 as presented to the Board at the April meeting on April 28, 2025. Approval of the Superintendent's HIB report for May 2025 for first reading and review as presented to the Board at the May meeting on May 19, 2025.
- Student Representatives: **Natalia Gerena-Roman & Lilyanne Zinsli**

Motion to approve 7a –7c:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ . Seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	-----... ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	-----... ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	-----... ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

8. ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS/CORRESPONDENCE

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

- a. Congratulations to the following students who were chosen as **Hopatcong Middle School's Students-of-the-Month** for their outstanding performance in April 2025:

Grade 4 - Cataleya Hernandez

Grade 5 - Austin Beeh

Grade 6 - Giada Shubert, Isabella Gavilanes

Grade 7 - Paige Johnson, Maya Plewa

- b. Congratulations to the following **Hopatcong High School Students** who have received the **Seal of Biliteracy**:

Lizania Gonzalez - Spanish

Michelle Interiano - Spanish

Danielle Morat - Spanish

Jean Franco Murillo Ruiz - Spanish

Brandon Panchana - Spanish

Joanny Pelaez - Spanish

Giuliana Ponce Gonzalez - Spanish

Piero Ponce Gonzalez - Spanish

Kaitlyn Sanchez - Spanish

Sebastian Wic - Polish

9. **PARENT/TEACHER ORGANIZATION REPRESENTATIVES**

10. **PUBLIC COMMENT – GENERAL DISCUSSION**

11. **ANNUAL APPROVALS AND APPOINTMENTS**

Approval of the following personnel items, 11a – 11p, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

a. **APPOINTMENT OF BOARD SECRETARY**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck** be appointed as Board Secretary for the 2025/2026 school year.

b. **APPOINTMENT OF TREASURER OF SCHOOL MONIES**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mrs. Susan Dykstra** be appointed as Treasurer of School Monies for the 2025/2026 school year.

c. **APPOINTMENT OF PURCHASING AGENT**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck** be appointed as Purchasing Agent for the Hopatcong School District for the 2025/2026 school year through June 30, 2026, and authorization for the Purchasing Agent to award contracts up to the bid threshold of \$32,000 or as per N.J.S.A.18A: 18A-3.

d. **APPOINTMENT OF HIPPA COMPLIANCE OFFICER**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Matthew Robinson** be appointed as HIPPA Compliance Officer for the Hopatcong School District for the 2025/2026 school year through June 30, 2026.

e. **APPOINTMENT OF CUSTODIAN OF PUBLIC RECORDS**

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21
Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room
2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Jeffrey Hallenbeck** be appointed as the Custodian of Public Records under the Open Public Meetings Act for the 2025/2026 school year through June 30, 2026.

f. **APPOINTMENT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION OFFICER**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Matthew Robinson** be appointed as the Affirmative Action Officer for the 2025/2026 school year.

g. **APPOINTMENT OF LIABILITY, WORKMAN'S COMPENSATION BROKER OF RECORD**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Arthur J. Gallagher Risk Management Services Inc.** be appointed as our Liability, Workman's Compensation, etc., Broker of Record for the 2025/2026 school year.

h. **APPOINTMENT OF INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT COORDINATOR**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Gregory Smyth** be appointed as the Integrated Pest Management Coordinator for the Hopatcong School District for the 2025/2026 school year.

i. **APPOINTMENT OF ASBESTOS MANAGEMENT OFFICER, SAFETY AND HEALTH DESIGNEE, INDOOR AIR QUALITY DESIGNEE, RIGHT TO KNOW OFFICER AND CHEMICAL HYGIENE OFFICER**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Mr. Gregory Smyth** be appointed as the Asbestos Management Officer, Safety & Health Designee, Indoor Air Quality Designee, Right to Know Officer and Chemical Hygiene Officer for the 2025/2026 school year.

j. **APPOINTMENT OF ATTORNEYS**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Porzio, Bromberg & Newman, P.C.** and any **other counsel** as deemed appropriate by the Administration, be appointed as attorneys for the Board of Education for the 2025/2026 school year.

k. **APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL PHYSICIAN**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that Dr. Salvatore DeFilippo be appointed as school physician for the 2025/2026 school year at a yearly stipend of \$18,000.

l. **APPROVAL OF POLICIES**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **existing by-laws, policies and regulations** as listed in our current by-laws and policies book be approved for the 2025/2026 school year.

m. **APPROVAL OF CURRICULUM**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that all existing **curricula and courses of study and textbooks** for the district schools be approved for the 2025/2026 school year.

n. **APPROVAL OF NEWSPAPERS**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that the **New Jersey Herald**, the **Daily Record** and the **Star Ledger** be approved as the official newspapers used by the Board of Education at the Board Secretary's discretion for the 2025/2026 school year.

o. **APPOINTMENT OF TAX SHELTER ANNUITY COMPANIES**

It is recommended by the Superintendent that **Lincoln Investment, Lincoln Financial, Metropolitan Life, Equitable, National Life Group and Security**

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Benefits be approved as Tax Shelter Annuity Companies for the Board of Education for the 2025/2026 school year.

p. **APPOINTMENT OF AUTHORIZED ACCOUNT SIGNATURES – 2025/2026 SCHOOL YEAR**

School Activity Accounts:

High School	Stephanie Martinez	Nicole Roman-Gerena	Jeff Hallenbeck
Athletic Fund	Stephanie Martinez	Christine Amella	Jeff Hallenbeck
Middle School	Lewis Benfatti	Deborah Gates, Tara Santa	Jeff Hallenbeck
Tulsa Trail	Brian Byrne	Maureen O' Hare	Jeff Hallenbeck
Durban Avenue	Katherine McFadden	Karli Razak	Jeff Hallenbeck

District Accounts:

Regular Account	Jeff Hallenbeck	Nicole Falconi-Shubert
Cafeteria Fund	Jeff Hallenbeck	Nicole Falconi-Shubert
Payroll Account	Jeff Hallenbeck	Nicole Falconi-Shubert
Payroll Agency Acct.	Jeff Hallenbeck	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

Motion to approve 11a – 11p:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item . Seconded by Choose Item

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

12. **FINANCE**

Approval of the following Finance items, 12a– 12k, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools:

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that bills for the General Fund and Special Revenues (Grants) account, April 28, 2025, through May 19, 2025 be approved in the following amounts:
General Fund and Special Revenue (Grants) account - \$1,064,402.27
Cafeteria account - \$2,806.58
Fund 30 - \$0
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Treasurer's Report for the month of April 2025.
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Board Secretary's Report for the month of April 2025.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

- d. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the Transfer Report for the month of April 2025.
- e. Motion to approve the certification by the Board Secretary that the Account Balance Report, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 18A:17-9, as of May 19, 2025, no line item account has encumbrances and expenditures, which in total exceed the line item appropriation in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(a).
- f. Motion to certify, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(c), as of May 19, 2025, after review of the Board Secretary's and Treasurer's Monthly Financial Reports and upon consultation with the appropriate district officials, to the best of our knowledge no major account or fund has been over-expended in violation of N.J.A.C. 6A:23-2.11(b), and sufficient funds are available to meet the district's financial obligations for the remainder of the fiscal year.
- g. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the continuation of the following Cooperative purchasing agreements for the 2025-2026 school year:

Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (E.S.C.N.J.)
New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Alliance
Educational Services Commission of Morris County
Omnia Partners
SourceWell
U.S. Commodities
Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission
Morris County Cooperative Pricing Council (MCCPC)
PC America

- h. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the salary for the Treasurer of School Monies, Susan Dykstra, for the 2025/2026 school year in the amount of \$12,000(11-000-230-100-01).
- i. It is recommended that the Board approve the acceptance of the following donation:

AMOUNT	DONOR	CHECK NUMBER	DONATED TO:
\$5,000	Gerald Salomone	8938	The Dale Salomone Memorial Scholarship
\$3,000	Jonathan P Stolarz	294	Hopatcong High School Scholarships

- j. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the third year of a continuing contract with Maschio's Food Services, Inc. for the 2025/2026 School Nutrition Program. The School Food Authority shall pay Maschio's an

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

annual management fee in the amount of \$36,400 with a guaranteed breakeven and a total contract cost of \$785,722.11.

- k. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the board approve the following school lunch prices for the 2025/2026 school year:

School	Breakfast Student Paid	Lunch Student Paid	Adult Breakfast	Adult Lunch	Milk
Durban Ave.	\$2.60	\$3.90	\$3.35	\$5.40	\$1.00
Tulsa Trail	\$2.60	\$3.90	\$3.35	\$5.40	\$1.00
Middle School	\$2.60	\$4.15	\$3.35	\$5.40	\$1.00
High School	\$2.85	\$4.30	\$3.35	\$5.40	\$1.00

Motion to approve 12a – 12k:

(ACTION) Motion by Choose Item . Seconded by Choose Item

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

13.

PERSONNEL

Approval of the following personnel items, **13a – 13m**, as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- Approval to accept the resignation of **Dijanna Andonova** from her positions as Paraprofessional effective May 2, 2025.
- Approval of **Melissa Kennedy** as Middle School Coordinator of Student Support for the 2025-2026 school year with a stipend amount of \$10,000.
- Approval for **District School Counselors** to work up to a total of 21 days during the summer, not to exceed 7 days per individual, at a per diem rate of 1/200th of their annual 24-25 salary, pending administrative assignment.
- Approval for **District School Nurses** to work up to a total of 85 hours during the summer, as assigned by administration, to support sports physicals and kindergarten registration, at a rate of \$40 per hour, as needed.

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

- e. Approval of **Susan Pallotta** to work as an Athletic Event Staff Member for 2024-2025 athletic events, to be paid at the Board Approved rate of pay per position.
- f. Approval of the rehire of **Employee #81460** as a Teacher at the Hopatcong High School at an annual salary of \$79,410, which represents MA, step 4 of the 25-26 HEA contract.
- g. Approval of the following **Involuntary Transfer Recommendations** based on staffing needs effective for the 2025-2026 school year:

Employee #	Current	Transfer
80401	HS Grade 8 Science	MS Grade 6 Science
80074	HS Coordinator of Student Discipline	MS Grade 4 Elementary
81551	MS MD	HS MD
80689	HS MD	MS R/R 4/5 Math
81066	TT LLD 2/3	DA LLD K/1
81718	DA SPED PreK	MS MD
80121	TT Grade 3	MS Grade 5
80100	MS Grade 5	DW ESL
81462	DA MD	TT MD
81744	ROV NUR	HS NUR
81803	HS NUR	DA NUR

- h. Approval of the following **Coach/Advisor** Positions for the 2025-2026 school year:

Name	Nature of Action	Position	Class	Level	Salary
Christopher Bove	Appoint	Summer Athletic Trainer	A	4	\$7,712

- i. Approval of the following staff to take and receive tuition reimbursements*, as per contract, upon successful completion of the course and submission of paperwork

Course Approval /Reimbursement Approval

Name	Course Title	Course Number	Credits	Cost
Christi Murphy	Transforming Your Online Instruction with Google Classroom: Ready, Set, Learn!	EDUC 718T	1	\$140

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Erica Strzepek	A Comprehensive and Contemporary Look at School Law	EDUC_716B	3	\$420
Audra Bauer	Behavior Interventions for Students with Special Needs	EDUC42544	3	\$284.25
Amanda Maliszewski	Designing Curriculum and Instruction I	D183	3	\$1,359
	Learning as a Science	D18	3	\$1,359
Julie Wilson	Co-Teaching that works - Structures and Strategies for maximizing student learning	EDUC 791F	3	\$420

****The maximum rate of reimbursement per credit for the 24-25 school year is \$453.***

- j. Approval of the following substitutes:
Thomas Hardman, Substitute Custodian
Gianna Bellinger, Substitute Teacher
- k. Approval of Melissa Canaan to work with the High School Cheer Team as a Choreographer on August 7 & August 8, 2025.
- l. Approval of the following 2025 Extended School Year (ESY) Programs:

NOTE: Programs and staffing recommendations are made in order to remain in compliance with N.J.A.C. 6A: 14 (Special Education Code).

The following teachers are recommended for employment:

- Christine Braun
- Katlin Cadavid Orozco
- Jami Cerrato
- Michael Farrell
- Jennifer Gigantino
- Karylin Ireland
- Amanda Maliszewski
- Emily Pappas
- Kara Puco
- Loren Turner
- Craig Vallaro
- Julie Wilson

*Rate of pay for each teacher above will be \$40 per hour. Teachers will work a maximum of 88 hours over 16 days.

- Kathy Diaz

*Rate of pay for Kathy will be \$40 per hour. She will work a maximum of 12 hours over the 16 days.

The following paraprofessionals are recommended for employment:

- Mary Aufiero
- Michelle Bastedo
- Jamie Becker

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

- Wanda Brown
- Jami Cerrato
- Cecilia Collantes
- Erika del Campo
- Stephanie Earl
- Christine Egbert
- Julie Gesregan
- Theresa Giordano
- Nicole Gricenko
- Wanda Guardiola
- Amanda Jennings
- Isabella Kestenholz
- Patti Mott
- Dorothea Morgan
- Kirk Mueller
- Mary Noel Daino
- Judy Maitland
- Kara Puco
- Donna Roio
- Milagro Segura
- Jessica Stillwell
- Marge Wallace
- Christine Wiemer
- Isabel Yarosz
- Angelina Zammuto
- TBD
- TBD
- TBD
- TBD

*Rate of pay for each paraprofessional will be \$17 per hour. Paraprofessionals will work a maximum of 88 hours over 16 days.

The following school nurses are recommended for employment:

- TBD
- TBD

*Rate of pay for each school nurse will be \$50 per hour. These school nurses will be sharing one position which has a maximum of 88 hours over 16 days.

The following case manager is recommended for employment:

- Jennifer Valenti

*Rate of pay for the case manager will be \$50 per hour. The case manager will work a maximum of 64 hours over 16 days.

Speech/Language Specialist, Occupational Therapist, Physical Therapist

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

These related service providers will be employed on an as needed basis with an hourly rate as per independent contract with each professional. The hours to be determined by student IEPs.

- Jennie Adessa – Speech/Language Specialist
- Kimberly Astrologo – Speech/Language Specialist
- Tasneem Abouelmagd– Occupational Therapist
- Terri Finnegan – Physical Therapist

The following bus paraprofessionals are recommended for employment:

- Milagro Segura
- Marge Wallace
- Isabella Kestenholz
- TBD
- TBD

*Rate of pay for each bus paraprofessional will be \$17 per hour. Bus paraprofessionals will work a maximum of 24 hours over 16 days.

Substitute Staff

- All staff members, approved substitute teachers, and approved substitute paraprofessionals from the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years are recommended to be utilized on an as needed basis as substitutes during the Extended School Year 2025 program.
- All appropriately certified staff members of the 2025 Extended School Year Program are recommended to be utilized on an as needed basis as substitutes during the Extended School Year 2025 Program.

m. Summer Evaluations

These positions are required in order to complete identification meetings, evaluations of students, and eligibility/IEP meetings as required by N.J.A.C. 6A: 14 (Special Education Code).

Learning Disability Teacher Consultants

Jennifer Valenti
Nancy Stephens

School Psychologists

Jaclyn DiBrienza-Cikovic
Stacey Montefusco

Social Workers

Dawn Hersh
Susan Pallotta

Speech/Language Specialists

Gabrielle Cardosa-Schnabel
Kristine Kester

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Christi Murphy
Emily Taylor
Siobhan Winkler

Physical Therapist
Melanie Piereth

Occupational Therapist
Christina Belfiore

Rates of Pay for Evaluations/Meetings:

- Psychological and Educational Evaluations – flat rate of \$300.00 each
- Social Histories – flat rate of \$200.00 each
- Speech/Language – flat rate of \$250.00 each
- OT/PT –flat rate of \$250.00
- Case managers will be paid an extra \$150.00 per case
- Teachers/Case managers/Related Service Providers – flat rate of \$50.00 to attend each meeting

All staff members from the 2024-2025 and 2025-2026 school years are recommended to be utilized on an as needed basis as certificated staff members at special education code required meetings on an as needed basis.

Motion to approve 13a-13m:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	-----... ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	-----... ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	-----... ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

14. **TRAVEL AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

Resolved, that the Hopatcong Board of Education approve travel costs as related in this resolution which are educationally necessary and fiscally prudent and are related to and within the scope of the employee's current responsibilities and promotes the delivery of instruction or furthers the efficient operation of the school district. The reimbursement listed in this resolution are in compliance with the state travel reimbursement guidelines as established by the Department of Treasury and Board of Education policy in accordance with N.J.A.C. 6A:23B-1.1. seq

Approval of the following staff to attend Professional Development/Conference*

Name	Title	Cost	Date
------	-------	------	------

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

Hank Fattorusso	NJ Transition Partnership Employment Horizons Cedar Knolls	\$0	6/3/25
-----------------	--	-----	--------

****Cost will be reimbursed upon completion of attendance and all documentation has been provided.***

Motion to approve 14:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

15. POLICY & REGULATIONS

Approval of item 15a-15b as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and the Student Achievement and Operations Committees of the Board:

a. Approval of modifications and additions to the policies and regulations of the Hopatcong Board of Education in accordance with statutory and regulatory changes for approval, as revised, for **SECOND READING**:

P 55841- Secret Societies
P 5842 - Equal Access of Student Organizations
P 2421 - Career and Technical Education
R 4240 - Employee Training

b. Approval of modifications and additions to the policies and regulations of the Hopatcong Board of Education in accordance with statutory and regulatory changes for approval, as revised, for **FIRST READING**:

P&R 5111 - Eligibility of Non Resident Students

Motion to approve 15a-15b:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

16. **STUDENTS AND SERVICES**

Approval of the following items, 16a-16b as recommended by the Superintendent of Schools and Student Achievement Committee of the Board:

- a. Approval for 28 hours of home instruction services for student no. 13163. Instruction will be provided by Hopatcong certificated staff at the rate of \$40.00 per hour 4/24/25-5/10/25.
- b. Approval for educational instruction services for student no. 13432 for 5 hours per week beginning May 7, 2025. Instruction will be provided by Saint Clare's Hospital at a rate of \$55.00 per hour.

Motion to approve 16a-16b:

(ACTION) Motion by Choose Item seconded by Choose Item

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	-----... ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	-----... ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	-----... ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

17. **RESOLUTIONS**

Approval of the following resolutions as per the recommendation of the Superintendent of Schools.

- a. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the Statement of Assurance for 2024-2025 Testing for Lead in School Drinking Water.
- b. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the agreement between the Hopatcong Borough Schools District and Sussex County Educational Services for the 2025-2026 school year for ancillary educational services
- c. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve the corrected longevity amount for Employee #81245 of \$6,000 for the 2025-2026 school year.
- d. Approval for educational instruction services for student no. 13432 for 5 hours per week beginning May 7, 2025. Instruction will be provided by Saint Clare's Hospital at a rate of \$55.00 per hour.
- e. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education approve Luanne Balinski as an Independent Contractor to implement speech/language services as indicated in student IEPs. She will serve as a Speech/Language Specialist 3 days a week beginning the week of January 27, 2025 through the remainder of the school year at a rate of \$400 a day
- f. It is recommended by the Superintendent that the Board of Education authorize the District Affirmative Action Team (AAT) to conduct a needs assessment in

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

accordance with NJDOE regulations and develop a comprehensive equity plan as required by code.

- g. WHEREAS, Natalia Gerena-Roman & Lilyanne Zinsli has served with distinction on the Hopatcong Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, Through their leadership, the Hopatcong Board of Education has gained fresh insights into student concerns, student priorities and what is on the mind of young people in the community; and

WHEREAS, They have further contributed to the community by serving as a valuable spokesperson, sharing the student perspective at board meetings; and

WHEREAS, Natalia Gerena-Roman & Lilyanne Zinsli exemplary commitment to fellow students and the school district has promoted clear communication between the board, district administration and the student body; and

WHEREAS, Natalia Gerena-Roman & Lilyanne Zinsli has maintained a professional decorum at board meetings, shown respect to board members and strived to learn the proper etiquette of serving on a school board; and

WHEREAS, They have demonstrated a commitment to advancing the education of all students without neglecting their own responsibility to strive for success in the classroom. Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the Hopatcong Board of Education recognizes Natalia Gerena-Roman & Lilyanne Zinsli dedication and commitment to advancing educational opportunity and open communication between the board, district administrators and the student body; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the Hopatcong Board of Education extends their sincere appreciation to Natalia Gerena-Roman & Lilyanne Zinsli for their dedicated service on the Hopatcong Board of Education; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the members of the Hopatcong Board of Education extend their best wishes to Natalia Gerena-Roman & Lilyanne Zinsli in all of their future endeavors.

Motion to approve 17a-17g:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item ▾ seconded by Choose Item ▾

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

18. SUSSEX COUNTY REGIONAL COOPERATIVE

- a. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of bills** for the Sussex County Regional Cooperative Operating account for April 29, 2025 through May 19, 2025 in the amount of \$35,418.16 for Regular bills and \$5,452,897.50 for Contractor bills.
- b. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend **the approval to accept the resignation of employee ID # 81625** effective May 23, 2025.
- c. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend **the approval to hire** Nick Fairchild as Assistant Transportation Supervisor, effective July 21, 2025 or sooner pending release of contract, at an annual salary of \$97,500, prorated for the 2025-26 school year.
- d. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval to pay** Employee ID# 81625 for a maximum of 8.5 earned vacation days on June 30, 2025.
- e. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval to pay** Julissa Ruiz Quinones on June 30, 2025 the \$1,000.00 sign-on incentive for new bus drivers, fully licensed with CDL Class B, P and S endorsements prior to employment.
- f. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval for Chris Verdi to attend** the National Child Passenger Safety Certification Program May 27 – May 30, 2025 in East Hanover at a cost of \$95.00.
- g. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval for Janine Byrnes, Chris Verdi and Lori Harrison to attend** the General Meeting of the School Transportation Supervisors of NJ on June 4, 2025 in Monroe Township at a cost of \$45.00.
- h. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of Merit** for the following Sussex County Regional Cooperative Office Staff Personnel to be paid June 30, 2025.

Employee ID #	Merit
80522	\$2,500
80515	\$3,000

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

81658	\$2,000
80216	\$2,000
81625	\$2,000
81639	\$2,000
81094	\$2,000
81850	\$1,000

- i. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of Merit** for the following Sussex County Regional Cooperative Administrators to be paid June 30, 2025.

Employee ID #	Merit
80566	\$5,500
80396	\$4,500
81726	\$3,500

- j.
1. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education School Year Routes** for the 2024-2025 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
 2. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **quotations for Special Education School Year Routes** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2024-2025 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
 3. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **approval of route contract addendums** for the 2024-2025 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
 4. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **acceptance** of student transportation **quotations for Athletic/Class/Field Trips** for the 2024-2025 School Year as listed on Exhibit A.
 5. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend the **award** of student transportation **contracts for quoted Athletic/Class/Field Trips** to the lowest, responsible and responsive bus contractor companies for the 2024-2025

HOPATCONG BOARD OF EDUCATION

REGULAR MEETING

May 19, 2025

6:00 pm. Open the Meeting and enter Executive Session in the Administration Building: Room 21

Public Portion will begin at 7:00 p.m in the Board Meeting Room

2 Windsor Avenue, Hopatcong, NJ 07843

School Year as listed on Exhibit A.

6. The Superintendent and the Director of Transportation recommend **the approval of the following new member districts** for the 2024-2025 school year:
New Brunswick School District

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item . seconded by Choose Item

-----... ▾	Natalia Cappello	-----... ▾	Kevin Daviau	----- ▾	Veronica Schram
-----... ▾	James Chaffee, Jr.	-----... ▾	Philip DiStefano	----- ▾	Jennifer Polowchena
-----... ▾	Jayson Cittrich	-----... ▾	Jayna Gulan	----- ▾	Nicole Falconi-Shubert

19. **BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER COMMENTS**

20. **ADJOURNMENT**

Motion to adjourn:

(ACTION)Motion by Choose Item . seconded by Choose Item

All in favor: Choose an item. Time: